

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (currently amended) A composite roving used for making structural composites comprising:

a continuous fiber bundle of a first fiber type, said continuous fiber bundle having a plurality of inner fibers and a plurality of outer fibers coupled together with a high integrity sizing material; and

a powder coating applied to an outer portion of said plurality of outer fibers in the form of a wet slurry.

2. (original) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said first fiber type is selected from the group consisting of e-type glass, s-type glass, carbon fiber, aramid fibers, synthetic fibers, and natural fibers.

3. (original) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said powder coating comprises between approximately ten and eighty percent by weight of the dry total weight the composite roving.

4. (original) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said powder coating comprises between approximately twenty and thirty percent by weight of the dry total weight the composite roving.

5. (original) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said powder coating is selected from the group consisting of a polyester powder coating, a bisphenol-type epoxy powder coating, a novalac epoxy powder coating, a phenolic powder coating, a hybrid epoxy and polyester powder coating, a polyurethane powder coating, and an acrylic powder coating.

6. (original) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said powder coating is a thermoplastic powder coating.

7. (withdrawn)

8. (withdrawn)

9. (withdrawn)
10. (withdrawn)
11. (withdrawn)
12. (withdrawn)
13. (withdrawn)
14. (withdrawn)
15. (withdrawn)
16. (withdrawn)
17. (withdrawn)
18. (withdrawn)
19. (withdrawn)
20. (withdrawn)
21. (withdrawn)
22. (withdrawn)
23. (withdrawn)
24. (withdrawn)
25. (withdrawn)

26. (withdrawn)
27. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said coated bundle is molded to form a composite part.
28. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said bundle is dipped in a slurry of a powder coating to apply said powder coating to an outer portion of said plurality of outer fibers to form a coated fiber bundle.
29. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 28, wherein said powder coating is metered onto said bundle by metering the amount of said slurry applied to said sized fiber bundle to a first amount using a stripper die.
30. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 28, wherein the weight of said plurality of inner fibers and said plurality of outer fibers within said composite roving comprises between approximately ten and eighty percent of the dry total weight of said coated fiber bundle.
31. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 30, wherein the coated strand is chopped into a plurality of chopped strands, wherein said chopped strands are placed onto a preforming screen to form a preform, and said preform heat consolidated to form a handleable preform.
32. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 31, wherein the handleable preform is placed on a mold within a press, and wherein said preform is compressed for a predetermined amount of time at a predetermined pressure and at a predetermined elevated temperature sufficient to melt, flow and cure the powder coating material contained within said composite roving to form a structural composite part
33. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 32, wherein said predetermined elevated temperature is between approximately 300 and 450 degrees Fahrenheit and said predetermined pressure is between approximately 300 and 1200 pounds per square inch.

34. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 30, wherein the coated strand is dried to form a composite roving, whereafter a plurality of strands of said composite roving are coupled to form a fabric, and at least one layer of said fabric is placed into a mold, and said at least one layer of fabric is compression molded at a predetermined temperature and a predetermined pressure to form the structural composite part.

35. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 34, wherein said plurality of strands of said composite roving are weaved to form said fabric.

36. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 34, wherein said plurality of strands of said composite roving are knitted to form said fabric.

37. (previously presented) The composite roving of claim 34, wherein said plurality of strands of said composite roving are braided to form said fabric.

38. (new) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said coating material surrounds the outer fibers in a substantially continuous form.

39. (new) The composite roving of claim 1, wherein said powder coating is dried on said fibers in a substantially unmelted form